

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis ~~a disease mediated by p38 other than cancer~~, comprising administering a compound of formula I



wherein B is a substituted or unsubstituted, up to tricyclic, aryl or heteroaryl moiety of up to 30 carbon atoms with at least one 5- or 6-member aromatic structure containing 0-4 members of the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, wherein if B is a substituted group, it is substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, up to per-halosubstitution, and X_n ,

wherein n is 0-3 and each X is independently selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CN}$, $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}^5$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NR}^5\text{R}^{5'}$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}^5$, $-\text{NO}_2$, $-\text{OR}^5$, $-\text{SR}^5$, $-\text{NR}^5\text{R}^{5'}$, $-\text{NR}^5\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OR}^{5'}$, $-\text{NR}^5\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}^{5'}$, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkyl, $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_{10}$ alkenyl, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkoxy, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{10}$ cycloalkyl, $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{14}$ aryl, $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{24}$ alkaryl, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{13}$ heteroaryl, $\text{C}_4\text{-C}_{23}$ alkheteroaryl, substituted $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkyl, substituted $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_{10}$ alkenyl, substituted $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkoxy, substituted $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{10}$ cycloalkyl, substituted $\text{C}_4\text{-C}_{23}$ alkheteroaryl and $-\text{Y-Ar}$;

wherein if X is a substituted group, it is substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CN}$, $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}^5$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}^5$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NR}^5\text{R}^{5'}$, $-\text{OR}^5$, $-\text{SR}^5$, $-\text{NR}^5\text{R}^{5'}$, $-\text{NO}_2$, $-\text{NR}^5\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}^{5'}$, $-\text{NR}^5\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OR}^{5'}$ and halogen up to per-halosubstitution;

wherein R^5 and $\text{R}^{5'}$ are independently selected from H, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkyl, $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_{10}$ alkenyl, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{10}$ cycloalkyl, $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{14}$ aryl, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{13}$ heteroaryl, $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{24}$ alkaryl, $\text{C}_4\text{-C}_{23}$ alkheteroaryl, up to per-halosubstituted $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkyl, up to per-halosubstituted $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{10}$ cycloalkyl, up to per-halosubstituted $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_{10}$ alkenyl, up to per-halosubstituted $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{14}$ aryl and up to per-halosubstituted $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{13}$ heteroaryl,

wherein Y is $-\text{O}-$, $-\text{S}-$, $-\text{N}(\text{R}^5)-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})-$, $-\text{CH}(\text{OH})-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{O}-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{S}-$, $-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{N}(\text{R}^5)-$, $-\text{O}(\text{CH}_2)_m-$, $-\text{CHX}^a$, $-\text{NR}^5\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NR}^5\text{R}^{5'}$, $-\text{NR}^5\text{C}(\text{O})-$,

$-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NR}^5-$, $-\text{CX}^a_{2-}$, $-\text{S}-(\text{CH}_2)_m-$ and $-\text{N}(\text{R}^5)(\text{CH}_2)_m-$,

$m = 1-3$, and X^a is halogen; and

Ar is a 5-10 member aromatic structure containing 0-4 members of the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur which is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen up to per-halosubstitution and optionally substituted by Z_{n1} ,

wherein $n1$ is 0 to 3 and each Z is independently selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CN}$, $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}^5$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NR}^5\text{R}^{5'}$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{NR}^5$, $-\text{NO}_2$, $=\text{O}$, $-\text{OR}^5$, $-\text{SR}^5$, $-\text{NR}^5\text{R}^{5'}$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}^5$, $-\text{SO}_2\text{R}^5$, $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^5\text{R}^{5'}$, $-\text{NR}^5\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OR}^{5'}$, $-\text{NR}^5\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}^{5'}$, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkyl, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkoxy, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{10}$ cycloalkyl, $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{14}$ aryl, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{13}$ heteroaryl, $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{24}$ alkaryl, $\text{C}_4\text{-C}_{23}$ alkheteroaryl, substituted $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkyl, substituted $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{10}$ cycloalkyl, substituted $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{24}$ alkaryl and substituted $\text{C}_4\text{-C}_{23}$ alkheteroaryl;

wherein if Z is a substituted group, it is substituted by the one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CN}$, $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}^5$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}^{5'}$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NR}^5\text{R}^{5'}$, $=\text{O}$, $-\text{OR}^5$, $-\text{SR}^5$, $-\text{NO}_2$, $-\text{NR}^5\text{R}^{5'}$, $-\text{NR}^5\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}^{5'}$, $-\text{NR}^5\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OR}^{5'}$, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkyl, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkoxy, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{10}$ cycloalkyl, $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{14}$ aryl, $\text{C}_4\text{-C}_{24}$ alkheteroaryl and $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{24}$ alkaryl

A is a heteroaryl moiety selected from the group consisting of

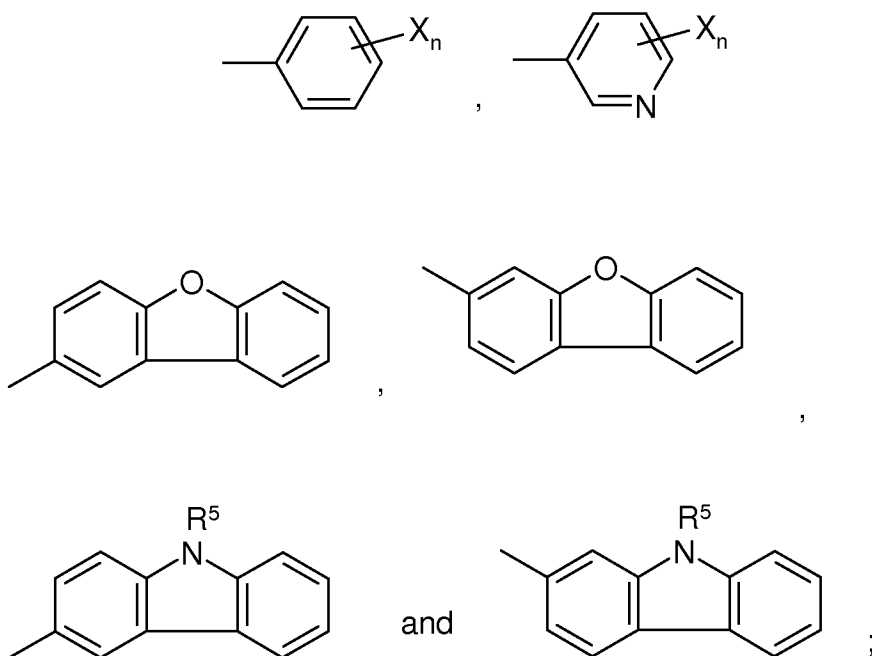
wherein R^4 and R^4 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_3 - C_{10} cycloalkyl, C_6 - C_{14} aryl, C_3 - C_{13} heteroaryl; C_7 - C_{24} alkaryl, C_4 - C_{23} alkheteroaryl, up to per-halosubstituted C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, up to per-halosubstituted C_3 - C_{10} cycloalkyl, up to per-halosubstituted C_6 - C_{14} aryl and up to per-halosubstituted C_3 - C_{13} heteroaryl,

R^a is C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_3 - C_{10} cycloalkyl, up to per-halosubstituted C_1 - C_{10} alkyl and up to per-halosubstituted C_3 - C_{10} cycloalkyl; and

R^b is hydrogen or halogen,

R^c is hydrogen, halogen, C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, up to per-halosubstituted C_1 - C_{10} alkyl or combines with R^1 and the ring carbon atoms to which R^1 and R^c are bound to form a 5- or 6-membered cycloalkyl, aryl or heteraryl ring with 0-2 members selected from O, N and S.

2. (Original) A method as in claim 1, wherein B is up to a tricyclic aromatic ring structure selected from the group consisting of



which is substituted or unsubstituted by halogen, up to per-halosubstitution, and

wherein $n = 0-3$ and each X is independently selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CN}$, $-\text{CO}_2R^5$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NR}^5R^{5'}$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})R^5$, $-\text{NO}_2$, $-\text{OR}^5$, $-\text{SR}^5$, $-\text{NR}^5R^{5'}$, $-\text{NR}^5\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OR}^{5'}$, $-\text{NR}^5\text{C}(\text{O})R^{5'}$, C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_{2-10} -alkenyl, C_{1-10} -alkoxy, C_3 - C_{10} cycloalkyl, C_6 - C_{14}

aryl, C₇-C₂₄ alkaryl, C₃-C₁₃ heteroaryl, C₄-C₂₃ alkheteroaryl, and substituted C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, substituted C₂₋₁₀-alkenyl, substituted C₁₋₁₀-alkoxy, substituted C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, substituted C₄-C₂₃ alkheteroaryl and -Y-Ar;

wherein if X is a substituted group, it is substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of -CN, -CO₂R⁵, -C(O)R⁵, -C(O)NR⁵R^{5'}, -OR⁵, -SR⁵, -NR⁵R^{5'}, NO₂, -NR⁵C(O)R^{5'}, -NR⁵C(O)OR^{5'} and halogen up to per-halosubstitution;

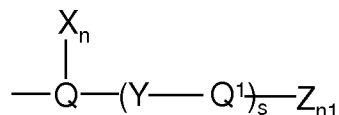
wherein R⁵ and R^{5'} are independently selected from H, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₂₋₁₀-alkenyl, C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, C₆-C₁₄ aryl, C₃-C₁₃ heteroaryl, C₇-C₂₄ alkaryl, C₄-C₂₃ alkheteroaryl, up to per-halosubstituted C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, up to per-halosubstituted C₂₋₁₀-alkenyl, up to per-halosubstituted C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, up to per-halosubstituted C₆-C₁₄ aryl and up to per-halosubstituted C₃-C₁₃ heteroaryl,

wherein Y is -O-, -S-, -N(R⁵)-, -(CH₂)_m-, -C(O)-, -CH(OH)-, -(CH₂)_mO-, -NR⁵C(O)NR⁵R^{5'}-, -NR⁵C(O)-, -C(O)NR⁵-, -(CH₂)_mS-, -(CH₂)_mN(R⁵)-, -O(CH₂)_m-, -CHX^a, -CX^a₂-, -S-(CH₂)_m- and -N(R⁵)(CH₂)_m-,

m = 1-3, and X^a is halogen; and

Ar is a 5-10 member aromatic structure containing 0-4 members of the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur which is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen up to per-halo and optionally substituted by Z_{nl}, wherein nl is 0 to 3 and each Z is independently selected from the group consisting of -CN, -CO₂R⁵, -C(O)R⁵, =O, -SO₂R⁵, -SO₂NR⁵R^{5'}, -C(O)NR⁵R^{5'}, -C(O)R⁵, -NO₂, -OR⁵, -SR⁵, -NR⁵R^{5'}, -NR⁵C(O)OR^{5'}, -NR⁵C(O)R^{5'}, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy, C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, C₆-C₁₄ aryl, C₃-C₁₃ heteroaryl, C₇-C₂₄ alkaryl, C₄-C₂₃ alkheteroaryl, substituted C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, substituted C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, substituted C₇-C₂₄ alkaryl and substituted C₄-C₂₃ alkheteroaryl; wherein if Z is a substituted group, it is substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of -CN, -CO₂R⁵, -C(O)NR⁵R^{5'}, =O, -OR⁵, -SR⁵, -NO₂, -NR⁵R^{5'}, -NR⁵C(O)R^{5'}, -NR⁵C(O)OR^{5'}, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy, C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, C₃-C₁₀ heteroaryl, C₆-C₁₄ aryl, C₄-C₂₄ alkheteroaryl and C₇-C₂₄ alkaryl.

3. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 1, wherein B is



wherein Y is selected from the group consisting of -O-, -S-, -CH₂-, -SCH₂-, -CH₂S-, -CH(OH)-, -C(O)-, -CX^a₂, -CX^aH-, -CH₂O- and -OCH₂-, where X^a is halogen,

Q is a six member aromatic structure containing 0–2 nitrogen, substituted or unsubstituted by halogen, up to per-halosubstitution;

Q¹ is a mono- or bicyclic aromatic structure of 3 to 10 carbon atoms and 0-4 members of the group consisting of N, O and S, unsubstituted or unsubstituted by halogen up to per-halosubstitution, and

X, Z, n and n1 are as defined in claim 1 and s is 0 or 1.

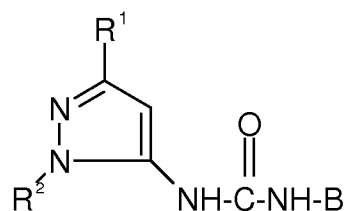
4. (Original) A method as in claim 3, wherein

Q is phenyl or pyridinyl, substituted or unsubstituted by halogen, up to per-halosubstitution,

Q¹ is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, pyridinyl, naphthyl, pyrimidinyl, quinoline, isoquinoline, imidazole and benzothiazolyl, substituted or unsubstituted by halogen, up to per-halo substitution, or -Y-Q¹ is phthalimidinyl substituted or unsubstituted by halogen up to per-halo substitution, and

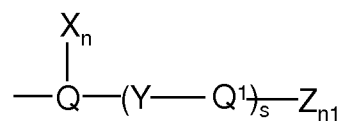
Z and X are independently selected from the group consisting of -R⁶, -OR⁶ and -NHR⁷, wherein R⁶ is hydrogen, C₁-C₁₀-alkyl or C₃-C₁₀-cycloalkyl and R⁷ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₃-C₁₀-alkyl, C₃-C₆-cycloalkyl and C₆-C₁₀-aryl, wherein R⁶ and R⁷ can be substituted by halogen or up to per-halosubstitution.

5. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 1, comprising administering a compound of the formula



wherein R¹ and R² and B are as defined in claim 1.

6. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 5, wherein B is 2,3-dichlorophenyl or of the formula



wherein Q is phenyl, Q¹ is phenyl or pyridinyl, Y is -O-, -S-, -CH₂- or -SCH₂, X is CF₃, and Z is -OH, -Cl or NHC(O)-C_pH_{2p+1}, where p = 2-4, s = 0 or 1, n = 0 and n1 = 0 or 1.

7. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 1 comprising administering a compound selected from the group consisting of:

N-(3-*tert*-Butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)urea;

N-(3-*tert*-Butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(3-(4-pyridinyl)thiophenyl)urea;

N-(3-*tert*-Butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)methylphenyl)urea;

N-(3-*tert*-Butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)oxyphenyl)urea;

N-(3-*tert*-Butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)thiophenyl)urea;

N-(3-*tert*-Butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)methylphenyl)urea;

N-(1-Methyl-3-*tert*-butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)urea;

N-(1-Methyl-3-*tert*-butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-hydroxy-phenyl)thiophenyl)urea;

N-(1-Methyl-3-*tert*-butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-ethylaminocarbonyl-

phenyl)oxyphenyl)urea;

N-(1-Methyl-3-*tert*-butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-isobutylaminocarbonyl-phenyl)thiophenyl)urea;

N-(1-Methyl-3-*tert*-butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)thiophenyl)urea;

N-(1-Methyl-3-*tert*-butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(3-(4-pyridinyl)thiophenyl)urea;

N-(1-Methyl-3-*tert*-butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)thio-3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)urea;

N-(1-Methyl-3-*tert*-butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)oxyphenyl)urea;

N-(1-Methyl-3-*tert*-butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(4-((4-pyridinyl)methylthio)-phenyl)urea;

N-(1-(2,2,2-Trifluoroethyl)-3-*tert*-butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(2,3-dichloro-phenyl)urea;

N-(1-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-3-*tert*-butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)urea;

N-(1-Ethoxycarbonylmethyl-3-*tert*-butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(2,3-dichloro-phenyl)urea;

N-(1-(2-Cyanoethyl)-3-*tert*-butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)urea;

N-(1-(3-Hydroxyphenyl)methyl-3-*tert*-butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(2,3-dichloro-phenyl)urea;

N-(1-Cyclohexyl-3-*tert*-butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)methyl-phenyl)urea;

N-(1-methyl-3-phenyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(3-(4-(2-methylcarbamoyl)-pyridyl)thiophenyl) urea;

N-(1-methyl-3-*tert*-butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridyl)thiophenyl) urea;

N-(1-methyl-3-*tert*-butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(3-(4-pyridyl)thiophenyl) urea;

N-(1-methyl-3-*tert*-butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(3-trifluoromethyl-4-(4-pyridylthio)phenyl) urea;

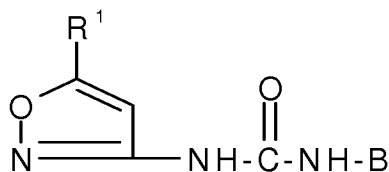
N-(3-*tert*-butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(3-(4-pyridyl)oxyphenyl) urea;

N-(3-*tert*-butyl-5-pyrazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridyl)oxyphenyl) urea;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

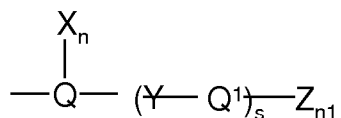
8. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 5, wherein R¹ is t-butyl.

9. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 1 comprising administering a compound of the formula



wherein R¹ and B are as defined in claim 1.

10. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 9, wherein B is



wherein Q is phenyl, Q¹ is phenyl or pyridinyl, Y is -O-, -S- or -CH₂, X is CF₃, Z is OH, CH₃, - O-C_pH_{2p+1}, wherein n = 2-6 or -C(O)-NH-CH₃, s = 1, n = 0 or 1 and n₁ = 0 or 1.

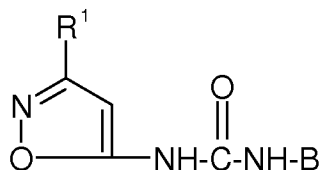
11. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 1 comprising administering a compound selected from the group consisting of:

- N*-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-hydroxyphenyl)oxyphenyl)urea;
- N*-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-isopropoxyphenyl)oxyphenyl)urea;
- N*-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-isobutoxyphenyl)oxyphenyl)urea;
- N*-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pentyloxyphenyl)oxyphenyl)urea;
- N*-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-methylaminocarbonylphenyl)-oxyphenyl)urea;
- N*-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(3-(4-pyridinyl)thiophenyl)urea;
- N*-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(3-(4-pyridinyl)oxyphenyl)urea;
- N*-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)oxyphenyl)urea;
- N*-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)thiophenyl)urea;
- N*-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)methylphenyl)urea;
- N*-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)thio-3-(trifluoromethyl)-phenyl)urea;
- N*-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(3-(3-methyl-4-pyridinyl)thiophenyl)urea;
- N*-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(3-(3-methyl-4-pyridinyl)oxyphenyl)urea;

N-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(3-methyl-4-pyridinyl)oxyphenyl)urea;
N-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(3-methyl-4-pyridinyl)thiophenyl)urea;
N-(5-*tert*-butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-(2-methylcarbamoyl)pyridyl)-oxyphenyl) urea;
N-(5-*tert*-butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(3-(4-(2-methylcarbamoyl)-pyridyl)oxyphenyl) urea;
N-(5-*tert*-butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-(2-carbamoyl)pyridyl)oxyphenyl) urea;
N-(5-*tert*-butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(3-(4-(2-carbamoyl)pyridyl)oxyphenyl) urea;
N-(5-*tert*-butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(3-((4-pyridyl)fluoromethyl)phenyl) urea;
N-(5-*tert*-butyl-3-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(3-((4-pyridyl)oxomethyl)phenyl) urea;
 and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

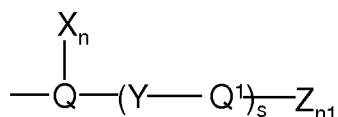
12. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 9, wherein R¹ is t-Butyl.

13. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 1 comprising administering a compound of the formula



wherein R¹ and B are as defined in claim 1.

14. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 13, wherein B is 2,3-dichlorophenyl or of the formula



wherein Q is phenyl, Q¹ is phenyl, pyridinyl or benzothiazolyl, Y is -O-, -S-, -CH₂- or -NH-, Z is Cl, -CH₃ or -OCH₃, s = 0 or 1, n = 0 and n₁ = 0 or 1.

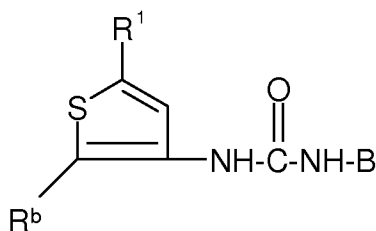
15. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 13, wherein R¹ is t-butyl.

16. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 1 comprising administering a compound selected from the group consisting of :

N-(3-Isopropyl-5-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(3-(4-pyridinyl)thiophenyl)urea;
N-(3-*tert*-Butyl-5-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)urea;
N-(3-*tert*-Butyl-5-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-methoxyphenyl)aminophenyl)urea;
N-(3-*tert*-Butyl-5-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-methoxyphenyl)oxyphenyl)urea;
N-(3-*tert*-Butyl-5-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)oxyphenyl)urea;
N-(3-*tert*-Butyl-5-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)thiophenyl)urea;
N-(3-*tert*-Butyl-5-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)methylphenyl)urea;
N-(3-(1,1-Dimethylpropyl)-5-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)methyl-phenyl)urea;
N-(3-(1,1-Dimethylpropyl)-5-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(3-(4-pyridinyl)thiophenyl)urea;
N-(3-(1,1-Dimethylpropyl)-5-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(2-benzothiazolyl)-oxyphenyl)urea;
N-(3-(1-Methyl-1-ethylpropyl)-5-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)oxy-phenyl)urea;
N-(3-(1-Methyl-1-ethylpropyl)-5-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)methyl-phenyl)urea;
N-(3-cyclobutyl-5-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridyl)oxyphenyl) urea;
N-(3-*tert*-butyl-5-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridyl)thiophenyl) urea;
N-(3-(1-methyl-1-ethylprop-1-yl)-5-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridyl)oxyphenyl) urea;
N-(3-*tert*-butyl-5-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridyl)methylphenyl) urea;
N-(3-*tert*-butyl-5-isoxazolyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-methoxyphenyl)aminophenyl) urea;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

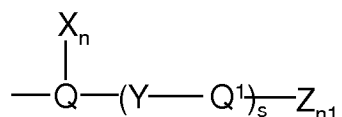
17. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 1 comprising administering a compound of the



formula

wherein R¹, R^b and B are as defined in claim 1.

18. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 17, wherein B is of the formula



wherein Q is phenyl, Q¹ is phenyl or pyridinyl, Y is -O- or -S- or -CH₂-, Z is OH, CH₃, Cl, -OC₂H₅ or -OC₃H₇, s = 0 or 1, n = 0 and n₁ = 0 or 1.

19. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 17, wherein R¹ is t-butyl.

20. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 17, wherein R^b is hydrogen.

21. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 1 comprising administering a compound selected from the group consisting of:

N-(2-Bromo-5-*tert*-butyl-3-thienyl)-*N'*-(4-methylphenyl)urea;

N-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-thienyl)-*N'*-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)urea;

N-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-thienyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-hydroxyphenyl)oxyphenyl)urea;

N-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-thienyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-ethoxyphenyl)oxyphenyl)urea;

N-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-thienyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-isopropoxyphenyl)oxyphenyl)urea;

N-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-thienyl)-*N'*-(4-(3-pyridinyl)oxyphenyl)urea;

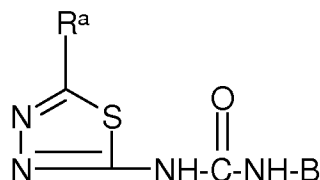
N-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-thienyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)oxyphenyl)urea;

N-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-thienyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)thiophenyl)urea;

N-(5-*tert*-Butyl-3-thienyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridinyl)methylphenyl)urea;

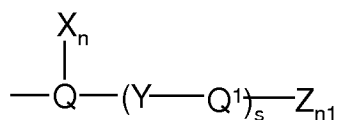
N-(5-*tert*-butyl-2-(1-thia-3,4-diazolyl))-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridyl)oxyphenyl) urea;
N-(5-*tert*-butyl-2-(1-thia-3,4-diazolyl))-*N'*-(3-(4-pyridyl)thiophenyl) urea;
N-(5-*tert*-butyl-2-(1-thia-3,4-diazolyl))-*N'*-(3-(4-methoxyphenyl)oxyphenyl) urea;
N-(5-*tert*-butyl-2-(1-thia-3,4-diazolyl))-*N'*-(3-(4-methylphenyl)oxyphenyl) urea;
N-(5-*tert*-butyl-3-thienyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridyl)oxyphenyl) urea;
N-(5-*tert*-butyl-3-thienyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridyl)thiophenyl) urea;
N-(5-*tert*-butyl-3-thienyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-pyridyl)methylphenyl) urea;
N-(5-*tert*-butyl-3-thienyl)-*N'*-(2,3-dichlorophenyl) urea;
N-(5-*tert*-butyl-3-thienyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-hydroxyphenyl)oxyphenyl) urea;
N-(5-*tert*-butyl-3-thienyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-methoxyphenyl)oxyphenyl) urea;
N-(5-*tert*-butyl-3-thienyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-ethoxyphenyl)oxyphenyl) urea;
N-(5-*tert*-butyl-3-thienyl)-*N'*-(4-(4-isopropoxyphenyl)oxyphenyl) urea;
 and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

22. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 1 comprising administering a compound of the formula



wherein R^a and B are as defined in claim 1.

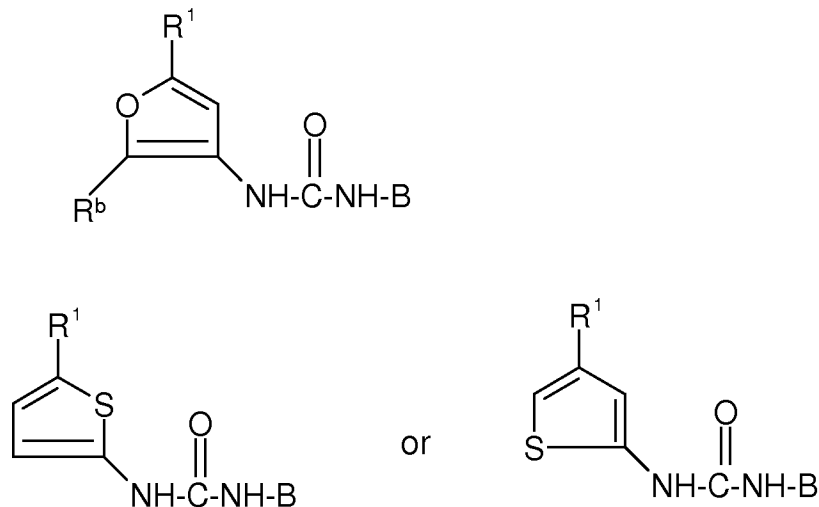
23. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 22, wherein B is of the formula



wherein Q is phenyl, Q¹ is phenyl or pyridinyl, Y is -O-, -S- or CH₂-, Cl, -OC₂H₅ or -OC₃H₇, s = 0 or 1, n = 0 and n₁ is 0 or 1.

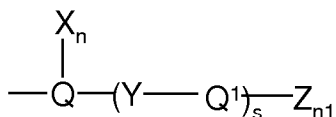
24. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 22, wherein R^a is CF₃- or t-butyl.

25. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 1 comprising administering a compound of one of the formulae



wherein R^1 , R^b and B are as defined in claim 1.

26. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 25, wherein B is of the formula



wherein Q is phenyl, Q^1 is phenyl or pyridinyl, Y is $-O-$, $-S-$ or $-CH_2-$, Z is OH, CH_3 , Cl, $-OC_2H_5$ or $-OC_3H_7$, $s = 0$ or 1 , $n = 0$ and $n1$ is 0 or 1 .

27. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 25, wherein R^1 is t-butyl.

28. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 1, wherein the compound for formula I displays $p38\ IC_{50}$'s of less than $10\ \mu M$ as determined by an in-vitro p38 kinase inhibition assay.

29. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the disease is mediated by a cytokine and/or protease (proteolytic enzyme) regulated by p38.

30. (Original) A method according to claim 1, comprising administering an amount of a compound of formula I effective to inhibit p38.

31. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 29, comprising administering an amount of a compound of formula I effective to inhibit production of a disease-mediating cytokine or protease.

32. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the disease is mediated by $\text{TNF}\alpha$, MMP-1, MMP-3, IL-1, IL-6 or IL-8.

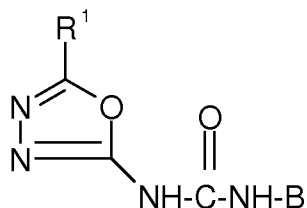
33. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the disease is an inflammatory or immunomodulatory disease.

34. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the disease is rheumatoid arthritis, osteoporosis, osteoarthritis, asthma, septic shock, inflammatory bowel disease, or the result of host-versus-graft reactions.

35. Canceled

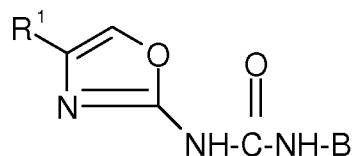
36. Canceled

37. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 1, comprising administering a compound of the formula



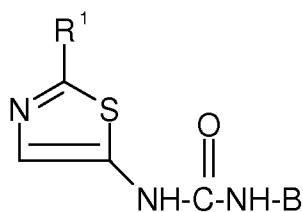
wherein R¹ and B are as defined in claim 1.

38. (Original) A method as in claim 1 comprising administering a compound of the formula



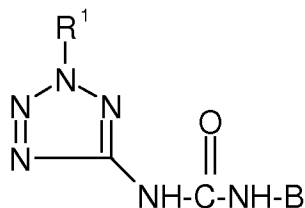
wherein R¹ and B are as defined in claim 1.

39. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 1, comprising administering a compound of the formula



wherein R¹, R² and B are as defined in claim 1.

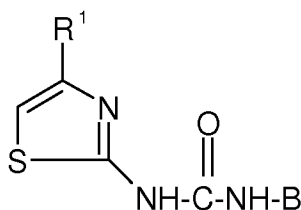
40. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 1, comprising administering a compound of the formula



wherein R¹ and B are as defined in claim 1.

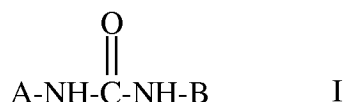
41. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 1, comprising administering a compound of the

formula



wherein R¹ and B are as defined in claim 1.

42. (Previously Presented) A method for the treatment of a disease mediated by p38 other than cancer comprising administering a compound of formula I



wherein B is phenyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, naphthyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, phthalimidinyl, furyl, thienyl, pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, benzofuryl, benzothienyl, indolyl, benzopyrazolyl, benzoxazolyl, benzisoxazolyl, benzothiazolyl or benzisothiazolyl, substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, up to per-halosubstitution, and X_n, wherein n is 0-3 and each X is independently selected from the group consisting of -CN, -CO₂R⁵, -C(O)NR⁵R^{5'}, -C(O)R⁵, -NO₂, -OR⁵, -SR⁵, -NR⁵R^{5'}, -NR⁵C(O)OR^{5'}, -NR⁵C(O)R^{5'}, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₂-C₁₀ alkenyl, C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy, C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, phenyl, pyridinyl, naphthyl, isoquinolinyl, quinolinyl up to per halo-substituted C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, up to per halo-substituted C₂-C₁₀ alkenyl, up to per halo-substituted C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy, up to per halo-substituted C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, and -Y-Ar;

wherein R⁵ and R^{5'} are independently selected from H, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₂-C₁₀ alkenyl, C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, up to per-halosubstituted C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, up to per-halosubstituted C₂-C₁₀ alkenyl, and up to per-halosubstituted C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl,

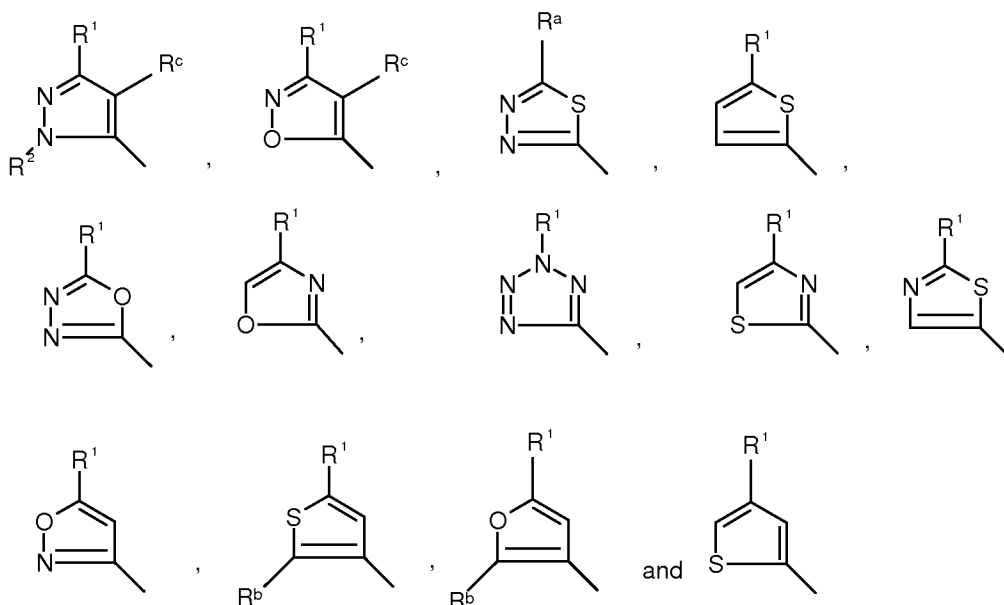
wherein Y is -O-, -S-, -N(R⁵)-, -(CH₂)_m-, -C(O)-, -CH(OH)-, -(CH₂)_mO-, -NR⁵C(O)NR⁵NR^{5'}-, -NR⁵C(O)-, -C(O)NR⁵-, -(CH₂)_mS-, -(CH₂)_mN(R⁵)-, -O(CH₂)_m-,

$-\text{CHX}^a$, $-\text{CX}_2^a$, $-\text{S}-(\text{CH}_2)_m-$ and $-\text{N}(\text{R}^5)(\text{CH}_2)_m-$,

$m = 1-3$, and X^a is halogen; and

Ar is phenyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, naphthyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, phthalimidinyl, furyl, thienyl, pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, benzofuryl, benzothienyl, indolyl, benzopyrazolyl, benzoxazolyl, benzisoxazolyl, benzothiazolyl or benzisothiazolyl, optionally substituted by halogen up to per-halosubstitution and optionally substituted by Z_{n1} , wherein $n1$ is 0 to 3 and each Z is independently selected from the group consisting of $-\text{CN}$, $=\text{O}$, $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}^5$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NR}^5\text{R}^{5'}$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{NR}^5$, $-\text{NO}_2$, $-\text{OR}^5$, $-\text{SR}^5$, $-\text{NR}^5\text{R}^{5'}$, $-\text{NR}^5\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OR}^5$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}^5$, $-\text{NR}^5\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}^{5'}$, $-\text{SO}_2\text{R}^5$, $\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^5\text{R}^{5'}$, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkyl, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkoxy, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{10}$ cycloalkyl, up to per halo-substituted $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkyl, and up to per halo-substituted $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{10}$ cycloalkyl, and

A is a heteroaryl moiety selected from the group consisting of



wherein

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of halogen, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{10}$ alkyl, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{10}$ cycloalkyl, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{13}$ heteroaryl, $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{14}$ aryl, $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{24}$ alkaryl, up to per-halosubstituted $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkyl, up to per-halosubstituted $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{10}$ cycloalkyl, up to per-halosubstituted $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{13}$ heteroaryl, up to per-halosubstituted $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{14}$ aryl, and up to per-halosubstituted $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{24}$ alkaryl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of H, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}^4$, $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}^4$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NR}^3\text{R}^{3'}$, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkyl, $\text{C}_3\text{-C}_{10}$ cycloalkyl, $\text{C}_7\text{-C}_{24}$ alkaryl, $\text{C}_4\text{-C}_{23}$ alkheteroaryl, substituted $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ alkyl,

substituted C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, substituted C₇-C₂₄ alkaryl and substituted C₄-C₂₃ alkheteroaryl,

where R² is a substituted group, it is substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of -CN, -CO₂R⁴, -C(O)-NR³R^{3'}, -NO₂, -OR⁴, -SR⁴, and halogen up to per-halosubstitution,

wherein R³ and R^{3'} are independently selected from the group consisting of H, -OR⁴, -SR⁴, -NR⁴R^{4'}, -C(O)R⁴, -CO₂R⁴, -C(O)NR⁴R^{4'}, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, , phenyl, pyridinyl, naphthyl, isoquinolinyl or quinolinyl

up to per-halosubstituted C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, up to per-halosubstituted C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, and up to per-halosubstituted, phenyl, pyridinyl, naphthyl, isoquinolinyl or quinolinyl and

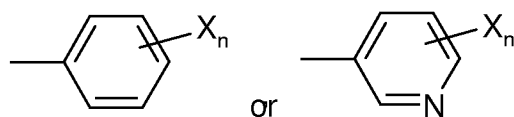
wherein R⁴ and R^{4'} are independently selected from the group consisting of H, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, , phenyl, pyridinyl, naphthyl, isoquinolinyl, quinolinyl up to per-halosubstituted C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, up to per-halosubstituted C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, and up to per-halosubstituted, phenyl, pyridinyl, naphthyl, isoquinolinyl or quinolinyl,

R^a is C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, up to per-halosubstituted C₁-C₁₀ alkyl and up to per-halosubstituted C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl; and

R^b is hydrogen or halogen,

R^c is hydrogen, halogen, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, up to per-halosubstituted C₁-C₁₀ alkyl or combines with R¹ and the ring carbon atoms to which R¹ and R^c are bound to form a 5- or 6-membered cycloalkyl, aryl or hetaryl ring with 0-2 members selected from O, N and S.

43. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 42, wherein B is



which is substituted or unsubstituted by halogen, up to per-halosubstitution, and wherein

n = 1-3 and

each X is independently selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₄ alkyl, up to per-halosubstituted C₁₋₄ alkyl and -Y-Ar;

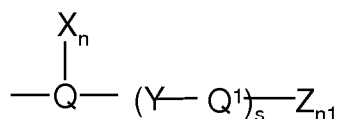
wherein Y is -O-, -S-, -N(R⁵)-, -(CH₂)_m-, -C(O)-, -CH(OH)-, -(CH₂)_mO-,

-NR⁵C(O)NR⁵NR^{5'}-, -NR⁵C(O)-, -C(O)NR⁵-, -(CH₂)_mS-, -(CH₂)_mN(R⁵)-, -O(CH₂)_m-,
 -CHX^a-, -CX^a₂-, -S-(CH₂)_m- and -N(R⁵)(CH₂)_m-,

m = 1-3, and X^a is halogen; and

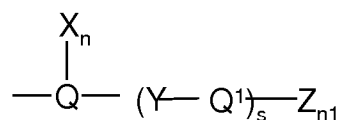
Ar is phenyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, naphthyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, phthalimidinyl, furyl, thienyl, pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, benzofuryl, benzothienyl, indolyl, benzopyrazolyl, benzoxazolyl, benzisoxazolyl, benzothiazolyl or benzisothiazolyl, optionally substituted by halogen up to per-halosubstitution and optionally substituted by Z_{n1}, wherein n1 is 0 to 3 and each Z is independently selected from the group consisting of -CN, =O, -CO₂R⁵, -C(O)NR⁵R^{5'}, -C(O)R⁵, -NO₂, -OR⁵, -SR⁵, -NR⁵R^{5'}, -NR⁵C(O)OR^{5'}, -C(O)R⁵, -NR⁵C(O)R^{5'}, -SO₂R⁵, -SO₂R⁵R^{5'}, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy, C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, up to per halo-substituted C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, and up to per halo-substituted C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, wherein R⁵ and R^{5'} are independently selected from H, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₂-C₁₀ alkenyl, C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, up to per-halosubstituted C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, up to per-halosubstituted C₂-C₁₀ alkenyl and up to per-halosubstituted C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl.

44. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 5, wherein B is of the formula



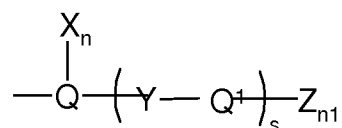
wherein Q is phenyl or pyridinyl, optionally substituted by halogen up to per-halosubstitution, Q¹ is pyridinyl, phenyl or benzothiazolyl optionally substituted by halogen up to per-halosubstitution, Y is -O-, -S-, -CH₂S-, -SCH₂-, -CH₂O-, -OCH₂- or -CH₂-, X is C₁-C₄ alkyl or up to per-halosubstituted C₁-C₄ alkyl and Z is as defined in claim 1, n = 0 or 1, s = 1 and n1 = 0-1.

45. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 9, wherein B is of the formula



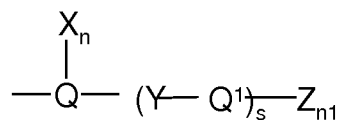
Q is phenyl or pyridinyl, optionally substituted by halogen up to per-halosubstitution, Q^1 is pyridinyl, phenyl or benzothiazolyl optionally substituted by halogen up to per-halosubstitution, Y is -O-, -S-, -C(O)- or -CH₂-, X is C₁-C₄ alkyl or up to per-halosubstituted C₁-C₄ alkyl and Z is as defined in claim 1 n = 0 or 1, s = 0 or 1 and n1 = 0 or 1.

46. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 13, wherein B is of the formula



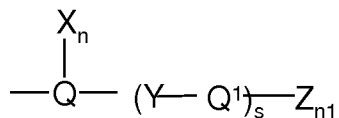
Q is phenyl or pyridinyl optionally substituted by halogen up to per-halosubstitution, Q^1 is phenyl, benzothiazolyl or pyridinyl optionally substituted by halogen up to per-halosubstitution, Y is -O-, -S- or -CH₂-, X is C₁-C₄ alkyl or up to per-halosubstituted C₁-C₄ alkyl, Z is as defined in claim 1, n = 0 or 1, s = 1, and n1 = 0 or 1.

47. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 17, wherein B is of the formula



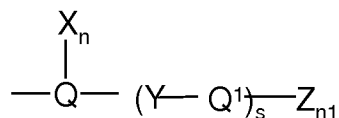
wherein Q is phenyl optionally substituted by halogen up to per-halosubstitution, Q^1 is phenyl or pyridinyl optionally substituted by halogen up to per-halosubstitution, Y is -O- or -S-, X is C₁-C₄ alkyl or up to per-halosubstituted C₁-C₄ alkyl, Z is as defined in claim 1, n = 0 or 1, s = 0 or 1 and n1 = 0-2.

48. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 22, wherein B is of the formula



wherein Q is phenyl optionally substituted by halogen up to per-halosubstitution, Q^1 is phenyl or pyridinyl optionally substituted by halogen up to per-halosubstitution, Y is -O- or -S-, X is C₁-C₄ alkyl or up to per-halosubstituted C₁-C₄ alkyl, s = 1, Z is as defined in claim 1, n = 0 or 1 and n1 = 0 or 1.

49. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 28, wherein B is of the formula



wherein Q is phenyl optionally substituted by halogen up to per-halosubstitution, Q^1 is phenyl or pyridinyl optionally substituted by halogen up to per-halosubstitution, and Y is -O- or -S-, X is C₁-C₄ alkyl or up to per-halosubstituted C₁-C₄ alkyl, Z is as defined in claim 1, n = 0 or 1 s = 0 or 1 and n1 = 0-2.

50. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein B is

a) phenyl, pyridinyl, naphthyl, quinolinyl or isoquinolinyl, substituted by -Y-Ar and optionally substituted by

- halogen up to per-halosubstitution,
- C₁-C₄ alkyl,
- up to per-halosubstituted C₁-C₄ alkyl, or
- a combination thereof,

wherein Y and Ar are as defined in claim 1;

- b) thienyl substituted by methyl; or
- c) indolyl substituted by phenyl or pyridyl.

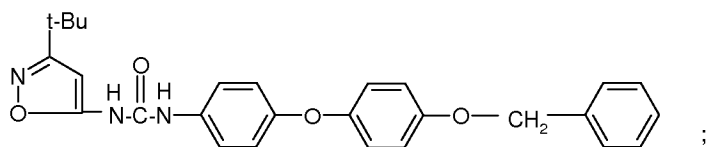
51. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein B is phenyl or pyridinyl substituted by -Y-Ar and optionally substituted by

- halogen ,up to per-halosubstitution,
- C₁-C₄ alkyl,
- up to per-halosubstituted C₁-C₄ alkyl, or
- a combination thereof,

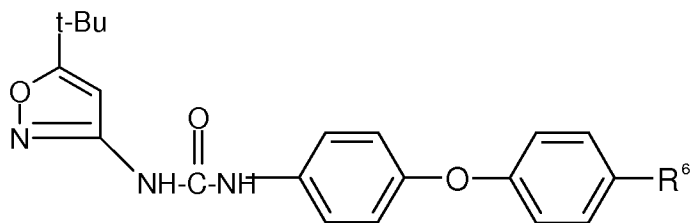
wherein Y and Ar are as defined in claim 1.

52. (Previously Presented) A compound of one of the formulae

a)

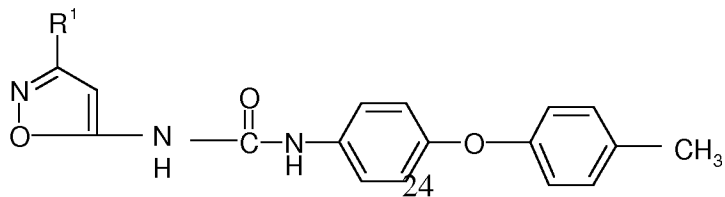


b)



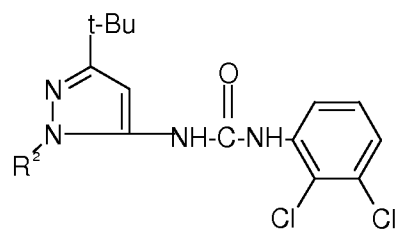
wherein R⁶ is -O-CH₂-phenyl, -NH-C(O)-O-t-butyl, -O-n-pentyl , -O-n-butyl , -C(O)-N(CH₃)₂, -O-CH₂CH(CH₃)₂ or -O-n-propyl;

c)

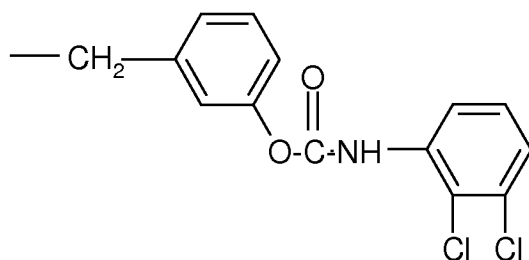


wherein R¹ is -CH₂-t-butyl;

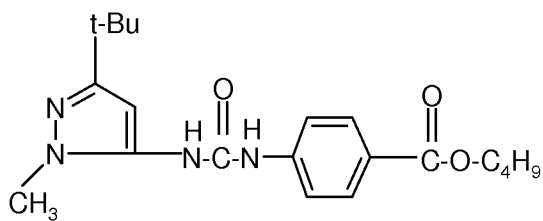
d)



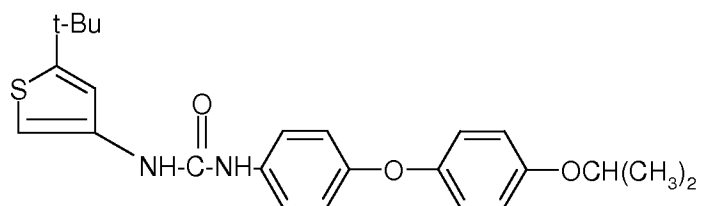
wherein R² is -CH₂CF₃, -C₂H₄-OH, -CH₂-(3-HOC₆H₄), -CH₂C(O)NHCH₃,
-CH₂C(O)OC₂H₅, -C₂H₄CN, or



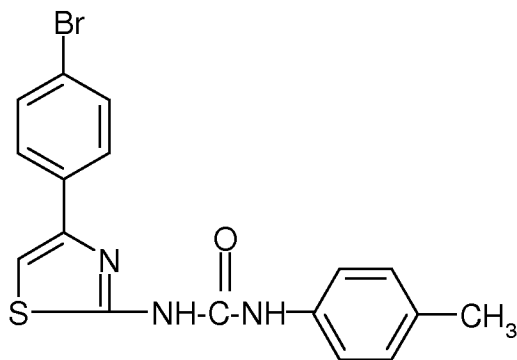
e)



f)

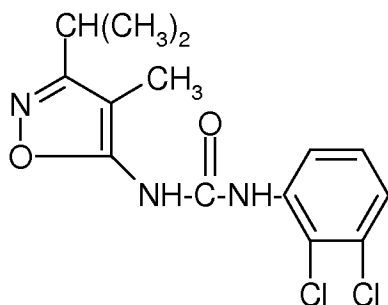


g)



or

h)



and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

53. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 52 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and a physiologically acceptable carrier.

54. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein R^b is hydrogen.

55. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein R^1 is selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_3 - C_{10} cycloalkyl, C_1 - C_{13} heteroaryl, C_{6-14} aryl, C_{7-24} alkaryl, up to per-halosubstituted C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, up to per-halosubstituted C_3 - C_{10} cycloalkyl, up to per-halosubstituted C_1 - C_{13} heteroaryl, up to per-halosubstituted C_{6-14} aryl, and up to per-halosubstituted C_{7-24} alkaryl.

56. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 42, wherein R^b is hydrogen.

57. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 42, wherein R¹ is selected from the group consisting of halogen, C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, C₁-C₁₃ heteroaryl, C₆₋₁₄ aryl, C₇₋₂₄ alkaryl, up to per-halosubstituted C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, up to per-halosubstituted C₃-C₁₀ cycloalkyl, up to per-halosubstituted C₁-C₁₃ heteroaryl, up to per-halosubstituted C₆₋₁₄ aryl, and up to per-halosubstituted C₇₋₂₄ alkaryl.

58. (Previously Presented) A method for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of formula

